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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND WORK FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

January 1973

STATE DOCUMENTS

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

OCT 5 1976

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Work Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian work force.

5. Seasonally Adjusted Work Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the work force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

6. Composite Index - an aggregate of four leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs; and Average Weekly Initial Claims. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U.S. Dept. of Commerce. The two indexes do not contain the same data, and the Dept. of Commerce used weighted figures while Montana's index used unweighted figures.

7. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

8. CEP - Concentrated Employment Program.

9. MDTA - Institutional training provided under the Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962 as amended.

10. OJT - On the Job Training provided under the MDTA.

11. JOBS "70" - On the Job Training including supportive services.

12. JOP - On the Job Training (Contract effective January 1971).

- EMPLOYMENT -

- UNEMPLOYMENT -

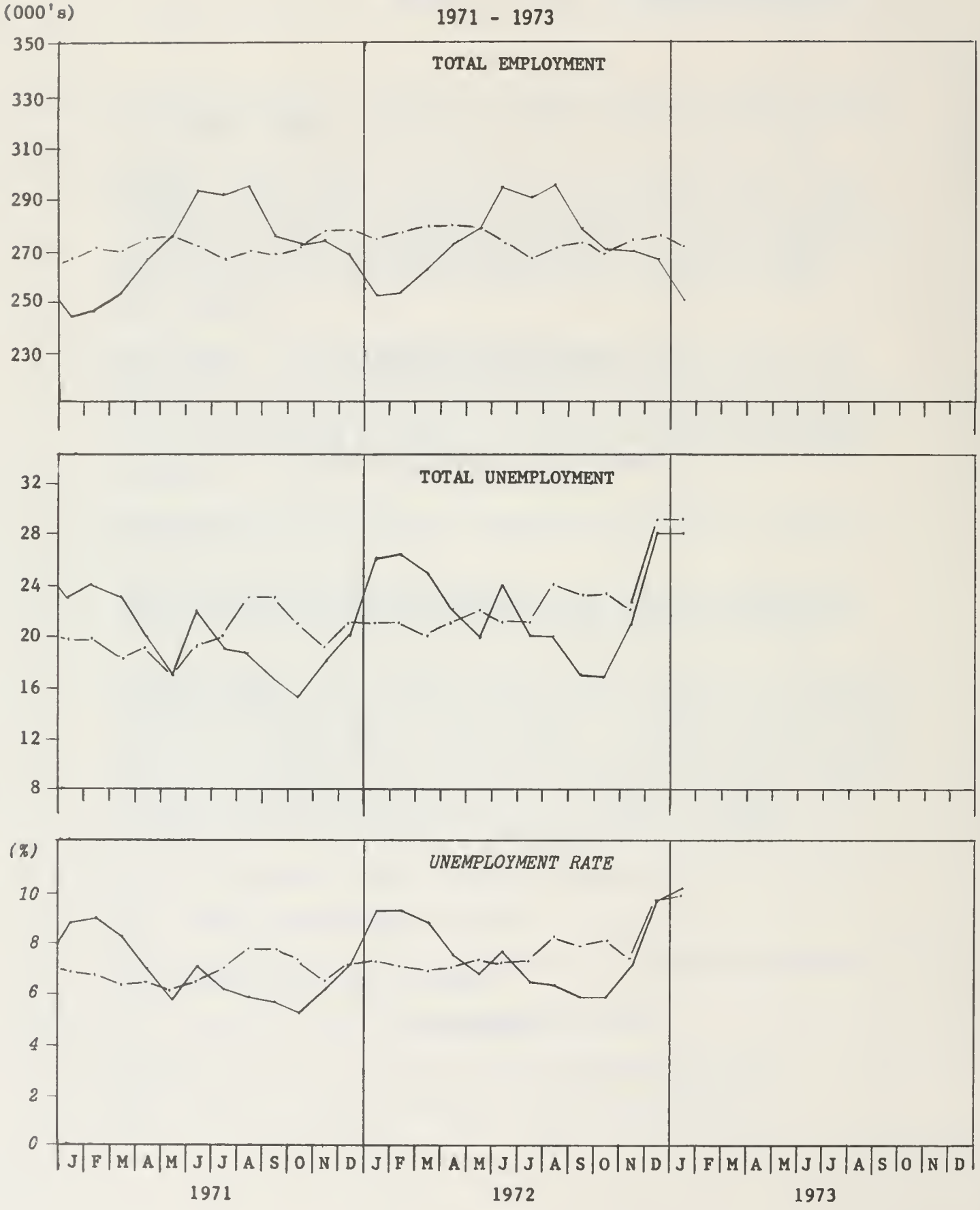
- CIVILIAN WORK FORCE -

JANUARY 1973

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(Seasonally Adjusted: .-.-)

1971 - 1973



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET

DECEMBER 1972

ANACONDA Construction projects remained at full strength during the past month as construction work at the smelter and a local housing project continue at a rapid pace. Employment also remained steady in all other industries. A new $22 million smelter for Anaconda will create 120 new jobs and generate an annual payroll of $1.2 million. The new plant is scheduled to go under construction this spring and be operational by late 1974. About 450 men will be employed at the peak of construction on the new facility.

BILLINGS Winter weather conditions virtually crippled construction and other outdoor activities this past month with the majority of layoffs in contract construction coming before Christmas. Post Christmas sales continued to be excellent as did business in the service industries. A significant demand developed for bookkeepers for the tax season. Hiring in agriculture was limited to experienced farm couples.

BOZEMAN A new Army Surplus store and a musical instrument store will open up shortly in downtown Bozeman. All major outdoor activities are continuing as the weather permits, with no new projects started. In agriculture, the feeding of livestock is the main activity, and 2 married couples are needed for farms. A layoff at a sawmill in West Yellowstone affected 12 employees.

BUTTE Retail and service business is steady with January sales used to stimulate business. Cooks and waitresses are in short supply and an estimated 20 cooks will be needed by April. There is quite a bit of half finished construction in the area that will be completed as warm weather permits. Construction for spring looks very good with housing, commercial construction, a new concentrator at Anaconda, and Gregson Hot Springs all set to start. Mining was curtailed for a while this month due to cold weather and the trucks freezing up. A shortage still exists for hard rock miners.

CUT BANK Weather in the area remains unsettled. Outside work consists mainly of oilfield, construction, and rig work. The factories at Browning are operating steadily. A local lumber mill continues to be shut down, and school projects at both Cut Bank and Browning have stopped operation due to the weather. Plans are progressing for a livestock sales ring at Browning. Retail trades have slowed now after the holidays, and inventories are in process.

DILLON Agricultural hiring increased slightly with some demand for ranch cooks, feeders, and men to haul hay. Some ranchers will start to calve in the next several weeks. Logging operations are continuing in spite of the extreme cold weather. All highway construction remains shut down; however, rock crushing will resume shortly.

GLASGOW There was a limited amount of activity in the labor market during the month as the weather remained at sub-zero temperatures allowing very little construction work to continue. There is a few calls for maids and domestic workers, and temporary job openings were received for lumber yards, trucking firms, waitresses and cocktail waitresses to fill in during the holidays.

GLENDIVE Weather broke again during the middle of January bringing warmer temperatures and allowing more outdoor work. Retail trade is returning to normal, with the Holiday season just about over. Construction of a new addition to one of the grade schools continued this month. Farm work is light, with a good supply of ready-to-go workers, and oil field activity is picking up again, with light hiring taking place.

GREAT FALLS Construction demands have been slow with the cold weather and completion of projects in the community. Agriculture is steady with needs for farm and ranch hands for feeding. The 5 employees on strike at a local soft drink bottling company since August have not settled to date and the 15 floor layers on strike since May also have not yet settled. Wholesale and retail trade employment is normal for this time of year.

HAMILTON Employment activity was dormant during the month as colder weather shut down nearly all outdoor activities. Most logging outfits were idled this month and the sawmill in Darby closed down. Agricultural activity was limited to supplemental feeding and the sorting and shipping of potatoes. No major construction projects are in progress in the area.

HAVRE Outlook for employment in the nonagricultural field has been slow this month. Outside construction work has continued as weather permits, but in most cases with a reduced crew. Exploration drilling continues slow but some rigs have started back to work. The wholesale-retail trade and service industries have shown very little activity this month and the agriculture field remains very slow with main activities being cattle feeding.

HELENA Governmental hiring has picked up as the legislature began its 1973 season. Construction is slow which is normal for this time of year. Two new restaurants will be opening soon, employing from 30 to 35 workers each. Retail and wholesale trades have been good the past several weeks as people are buying at the post-holiday sales around town.

KALISPELL Construction employment experienced an upward trend as the weather continued to improve. Retail firms made heavy layoffs because of a downturn in business after the holidays, and large government agencies were also laying off temporary and seasonal employees. All other industry employment remained farily stable.

LEWISTOWN Downtown businesses remained slow this past month which is a normal trend, and in the agricultural scene this past several weeks there was very little activity. Work continued on the watershed program along with a nine-unit addition to a local motel, plus 3 other construction jobs.

LIBBY Due to cold weather and snow, hiring has been slow during December. Libby Dam employment which has been fluctuating during the past month is between 700 and 800 working on the job. With additional layoffs from Libby Dam contractors in the near future, and the wet weather conditions slowing down logging operations, a downward trend is expected for the next several weeks.

MILES CITY There has been a slowdown in services and retail trades due to establishments cutting back in help until their businesses pick up again. Construction has also slowed due to the cold weather.

MISSOULA The lumbering industry continued very strong during January with all mills and logging operations continuing to operate near capacity. Three restaurants and one pizza house have opened during the past month, and a retail shopping center which will employ upwards of 150 persons will open shortly. However, on the other side of the ledger a major hotel in Missoula has cut back 40 of its employees.

POLSON Sawmill and woods work remains steady with hires being on a replacement basis only. There has been some calls for fallers, however. Construction work has improved during the past month as workers have returned to work on construction sites with the milder weather conditions. Cafe and retail trades activity remained steady. Farm work consists mainly of feeding cattle at this time and potato harvest will begin in February.

SHELBY Construction is slow with no new demands in the area mainly due to the colder weather. There has been demand locally for office clerks, bookkeepers, waitresses, and laundry workers. Agriculture is steady with a call for experienced farm couples.

THOMPSON FALLS Adverse cold weather has slowed work in logging and construction. As weather conditions permit, workers laid off in these industries will be recalled to work on uncompleted projects. Employment in all other industrial groups is remaining stable.

WOLF POINT There has been scattered layoffs in retail stores and cafes, due to normal winter decline. A local contractor who is building houses for the Fort Peck Tribes, has laid off workers due to a slowdown in production and will continue at the current level until spring.

STATE OF MONTANA Montana's December civilian work force increased nearly 4,000 over November, one month prior, as it rose from 291,900 to 295,800. This was also an increase over December one year ago by 5,000 people. Total employment for the state dropped to 267,100, a decrease of 3.7 thousand from November, and a 2.7 thousand drop from December 1971. The unemployment rate for December jumped to 9.2 percent, the highest for any month during 1972.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased in December by 800 from the previous month for a total of 239,500. This is a continuing of the normal seasonal trend with a slowdown in outside activities with the colder weather. State construction employment dropped to 8.5 thousand, 1,100 less than one month ago, and 2.2 thousand less than December one year ago. Construction has been running lower in 1972 than last year but may pick up in the spring of 1973 with projects in Anaconda for a new $22 million smelter to be built, a resort complex at Gregson Hot Springs ready to start, and a new airport terminal at Great Falls.

Wholesale and retail trade employment for December was up 800 over November figure, and mining employment stood at 6.4 thousand, slightly ahead of last month. Two of Montana's industries had decreases in employment from November-government, 55.6 thousand, down 300, and services, 36.8 thousand, down 100. Finance, insurance and real estate, transportation and manufacturing employment remained the same as that in November.

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STATE OF MONTANA (Cont.) Agricultural employment was 27.3 thousand in December, a decrease of 2,900 from November one month ago, and down 1,300 from December of last year. Montana's 1972 production of small grains (wheat, barley, oats and rye) amounted to 175 million bushels, down 3 percent from 1971. A total of 5.7 million acres of wheat, barley, oats, and rye were harvested this year - down 9 percent from last year. The 1972 production of small grains is valued at $241.6 million, $46 million more than last year. The 3 percent decrease in production was offset by higher grain prices this year.

Generally, crops in the eastern third of the state fared considerably better than other sections of the state. A few heavy hail storms hit during the summer but overall, hail damage was less than normal. Showers interrupted harvest progress and prolonged harvest for several days in most areas. Montana potato stocks totaled 1,475,000 cwt. in 1972, up 18 percent from a year earlier.

Range condition was good to excellent in the eastern half and much of the southern portions of the state. In much of the central, north central and western portions of the state, range feed conditions ranged from very poor to fair.

Statewide bank debits in November increased 8 percent with debits of $1,235,585,000 compared to $1,139,461,000 in 1971. An 18 percent increase was shown in the 12-month period as total debits for the year were $12,998,791,000. Each of the Montana communities showed gains, most of them exceeding 10 percent for the 12-month period. Kalispell and Livingston led with increases of 39 and 34 percent respectively.

Billings and Great Falls accounted for approximately 45 percent of the state's building permits from January through November 1972. Of the state total, 4,260 permits, Billings had 1,141 and Great Falls 858. Valuations were $39,569,000 statewide, $14,246,000 for Billings and $7,145,000 for Great Falls.

ANTICIPATED DEVELOPMENTS IN MONTANA'S WORK FORCE

February through April 1973

Unemployment is expected to stay at a high level as a result of adverse weather. This seasonal rise in unemployment will continue throughout the winter months. Construction, woods work, and agricultural operations will continue to show a greater drop as the weather worsens.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

December 1972

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	48	44	602
CEP	30	38	216
MDTA (Inst.)	60	38	304
JOBS 70	5	5	52
JOP	19	19	100
Job Corps	14	11	148

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED[1/]

December 1972

Social Characteristics	*Percent* of Total Covered Unemployment
Non-White	*4.1%*
Female	*23.5%*
Youth	*10.1%*
Over 45	*33.8%*

1/ *Based on 20% sample of Continued Claims filed during the week including the 19th of each month in all local offices.*

Table I

MONTANA CIVILIAN WORK FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* Montana	U. S.	
1971								
January	269.9	245.8	221.5	24.3	23.7	*8.8*	*6.6*	.4
February	272.7	247.8	222.6	25.2	24.5	*9.0*	*6.6*	.4
March	277.2	254.1	225.9	28.2	23.1	*8.3*	*6.3*	*
April	288.1	267.8	230.3	37.5	20.3	*7.0*	*5.7*	*
May	293.9	276.8	237.3	39.5	17.1	*5.8*	*5.3*	*
June	317.4	294.8	247.6	47.2	22.5	*7.1*	*6.5*	.1
July	319.4	293.8	244.2	49.6	19.8	*6.2*	*6.2*	5.8
August	320.5	295.8	246.2	49.6	18.9	*5.9*	*5.9*	5.8
September	299.0	276.3	243.9	32.4	16.9	*5.7*	*5.8*	5.8
October	288.5	273.1	243.6	29.5	15.3	*5.3*	*5.4*	.1
November	292.8	274.5	243.1	31.4	18.2	*6.2*	*5.7*	.1
December	290.8	269.8	240.9	28.9	20.9	*7.2*	*5.5*	.1
1971 Avg.	294.2	272.5	237.3	35.2	20.2	*6.9*	*5.9*	1.5
1972								
January	279.9	253.8	228.7	25.1	26.0	*9.3*	*6.4*	.1
February	281.0	254.6	229.3	25.3	26.3	*9.3*	*6.4*	.1
March	289.0	263.3	233.4	29.9	25.6	*8.8*	*6.1*	.1
April	296.0	273.5	235.6	37.9	22.4	*7.5*	*5.5*	.1
May	300.4	279.7	240.4	39.3	20.5	*6.8*	*5.1*	.2
June	320.8	295.8	246.3	49.5	24.9	*7.7*	*6.2*	.1
July	312.7	291.9	245.6	46.3	20.4	*6.5*	*5.8*	.4
August	317.3	296.1	245.2	50.9	20.6	*6.4*	*5.5*	.6
September	297.6	279.6	242.8	36.8	17.7	*5.9*	*5.4*	.3
October	288.5	271.4	241.0	30.4	17.0	*5.9*	*5.1*	.1
November	291.9	270.8	240.3	30.5	21.0	*7.2*	*4.9*	.1
December	295.8	267.1	239.5	27.6	28.6	*9.7*	*4.7*	.1
1972 Avg.	297.5	274.8	239.0	35.8	22.6	*7.6*		.1
1973								
January	279.8	251.3	227.4	23.9	28.5	*10.2*		
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*
Revised to 1972 Benchmarks *Series began January 1957*

Table 11

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Work Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

In Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent#		
						County	State	
1971								
January	29.4	27.4	26.5	.9	2.0	*6.8*	*8.8*	0
February	29.7	27.6	26.7	.9	2.1	*7.1*	*9.0*	0
March	30.2	28.2	27.0	1.2	2.0	*6.6*	*8.3*	0
April	31.2	29.4	27.8	1.6	1.8	*5.8*	*7.0*	0
May	31.7	30.0	28.4	1.6	1.7	*5.4*	*5.8*	0
June	33.3	30.9	28.7	2.2	2.3	*6.9*	*7.1*	.1
July	32.1	28.6	26.8	1.8	2.1	*6.5*	*6.2*	1.4
August	32.3	28.9	27.1	1.8	2.0	*6.2*	*5.9*	1.4
September	31.6	28.3	27.2	1.1	1.9	*6.0*	*5.7*	1.4
October	31.0	29.5	28.7	.8	1.5	*4.8*	*5.3*	0
November	31.1	29.4	28.5	.9	1.7	*5.5*	*6.2*	0
December	31.2	29.3	28.3	1.0	1.9	*6.1*	*7.2*	0
1971 Avg.	31.1	28.9	27.6	1.3	1.9	*6.1*	*6.9*	.3
1972								
January	30.4	28.1	27.2	.9	2.3	*7.6*	*9.3*	0
February	30.6	28.3	27.4	.9	2.3	*7.5*	*9.3*	0
March	31.1	29.1	27.9	1.2	2.0	*6.4*	*8.8*	0
April	32.2	30.4	28.8	1.6	1.8	*5.6*	*7.5*	0
May	32.4	30.7	29.1	1.6	1.7	*5.2*	*6.8*	0
June	34.3	31.6	29.5	2.1	2.7	*7.9*	*7.7*	0
July	33.2	30.9	29.0	1.9	2.3	*6.9*	*6.5*	*
August	33.1	30.8	28.6	2.2	2.3	*6.9*	*6.4*	*
September	32.3	30.1	28.5	1.6	2.2	*6.8*	*5.9*	*
October	32.1	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.1	*6.5*	*5.9*	0
November	32.3	29.9	28.3	1.6	2.4	*7.4*	*7.2*	*
December	32.1	29.8	28.3	1.5	2.3	*7.2*	*9.7*	*
1972 Avg.	32.2	30.0	28.4	1.6	2.2	*6.8*	*7.6*	*
1973								
January	31.3	28.6	27.4	1.2	2.7	*8.6*	*10.2*	
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*

\# *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1962*

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Work Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent#* County	State	
1971								
January	35.6	33.2	32.1	1.1	2.4	*6.7*	*8.8*	*
February	36.2	33.6	32.2	1.4	2.6	*7.2*	*9.0*	*
March	36.5	33.9	32.7	1.2	2.6	*7.1*	*8.3*	*
April	37.4	35.3	33.5	1.8	2.1	*5.6*	*7.0*	*
May	38.4	36.5	34.4	2.1	1.9	*4.9*	*5.8*	0
June	39.4	36.8	35.0	1.8	2.6	*6.6*	*7.1*	0
July	39.5	37.2	35.1	2.1	2.3	*5.8*	*6.2*	0
August	39.2	37.0	35.0	2.0	2.2	*5.6*	*5.9*	0
September	38.7	36.6	35.2	1.4	2.1	*5.4*	*5.7*	0
October	38.7	37.0	36.0	1.0	1.7	*4.4*	*5.3*	0
November	39.4	37.1	35.9	1.2	2.3	*5.8*	*6.2*	0
December	39.0	36.6	35.6	1.0	2.4	*6.2*	*7.2*	0
1971 Avg.	38.2	35.9	34.4	1.5	2.3	*6.0*	*6.9*	0
1972								
January	37.7	35.0	33.8	1.2	2.7	*7.2*	*9.3*	0
February	38.0	35.2	34.2	1.0	2.8	*7.4*	*9.3*	0
March	39.1	36.3	34.9	1.4	2.8	*7.2*	*8.8*	0
April	39.6	37.4	35.8	1.6	2.2	*5.6*	*7.5*	*
May	40.1	37.8	36.3	1.5	2.3	*5.7*	*6.8*	*
June	42.9	39.9	37.3	2.6	3.0	*7.0*	*7.7*	*
July	42.7	40.1	37.3	2.8	2.6	*6.1*	*6.5*	*
August	42.8	40.3	37.3	3.0	2.5	*5.8*	*6.4*	*
September	41.7	39.5	37.3	2.2	2.2	*5.3*	*5.9*	*
October	41.8	39.8	38.1	1.7	2.0	*4.8*	*5.9*	*
November	42.0	39.6	38.0	1.6	2.4	*5.7*	*7.2*	*
December	41.9	39.3	37.9	1.4	2.6	*6.2*	*9.7*	*
1972 Avg.	40.9	38.4	36.6	1.8	2.5	*6.1*	*7.6*	*
1973								
January	40.5	37.6	36.0	1.6	2.9	*7.2*	*10.2*	
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*

\# *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers* *Series began January 1962*

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

DECEMBER 1972

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Net Changes to Current Month from: Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971
1. Civilian Work Force	295.8	291.9	290.8	3.9	5.0
2. Unemployment	28.6	21.0	20.9	7.6	7.7
Percent of Work Force	*9.7*	*7.2*	*7.2*	*2.5*	*2.5*
3. Employment, Total	267.1	270.8	269.8	-3.7	-2.7
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary	212.2	212.8	210.7	-.6	1.5
MANUFACTURING	25.4	25.4	25.3	0	.1
Durable Goods	16.5	16.5	16.9	0	-.4
24 Lumber and Wood Products	9.5	9.5	9.2	0	.3
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.4	3.4	4.7	0	-1.3
Other Durable Goods	3.6	3.6	3.0	0	.6
Nondurable Goods	8.9	8.9	8.4	0	.5
20 Food and Kindred Products	4.4	4.4	4.4	0	0
27 Printing and Publishing	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	.1
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.1	1.1	.9	0	.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.2	0	.2
NONMANUFACTURING	186.8	187.4	185.4	-.6	1.4
Mining	6.4	6.3	6.4	.1	0
10 Metal Mining	3.8	3.7	3.6	.1	.2
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Nonmetal Mining	.9	.9	1.0	0	-.1
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	-.1

Contract Construction	8.5	9.6	10.7	-1.1	-2.2
15 General Building Contractors	2.3	2.4	3.1	-.1	-.8
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	2.8	3.3	3.9	-.5	-1.1
17 Special Trade Contractors	3.4	3.9	3.7	-.5	-.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	17.6	17.6	17.6	0	0
40 Railroad Transportation	6.3	6.3	6.3	0	0
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	4.8	4.8	5.1	0	-.3
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	6.5	6.5	6.2	0	.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	52.9	52.1	51.9	.8	1.0
Wholesale Trade	10.6	10.6	10.4	0	.2
Retail Trade	42.3	41.5	41.5	.8	.8
53 & 56 Ret. Gen. Merch., Apparel, Accessories	7.9	7.1	8.2	.8	-.3
54 Food Stores	5.9	5.7	6.0	.2	-.1
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	8.5	8.5	8.4	0	.1
58 Eating and Drinking Places	11.4	11.9	10.5	-.5	.9
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	8.6	8.3	8.4	.3	.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	9.0	9.0	8.7	0	.3
Services	36.8	36.9	35.4	-.1	1.4
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	4.2	4.4	3.8	-.2	.4
72 Personal Services	2.3	2.4	2.5	-.1	-.2
80 Medical and other Health Services	12.3	12.3	11.9	0	.4
Other Services	18.0	17.8	17.2	.2	.8
Government	55.6	55.9	54.7	-.3	.9
91 Federal Government	11.6	11.8	11.3	-.2	.3
92 & 93 State and Local Government	44.0	44.1	43.4	-.1	.6
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[1/]	27.3	27.5	30.2	-.2	-2.9
(c) Agriculture	27.6	30.5	28.9	-2.9	-1.3
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes	.1	.1	.1	0	0

1/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks. *Series began January 1964.*

Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table V

MONTANA STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Employment by Industry

DECEMBER 1972

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Net Changes to Current Month from: Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971
GREAT FALLS (CASCADE COUNTY)					
1. Civilian Work Force	32.1	32.3	31.2	-.2	.9
2. Unemployment	2.3	2.4	1.9	-.1	.4
Percent of Work Force	*7.2*	*7.4*	*6.1*	*-.2*	*1.1*
3. Employment, Total	29.8	29.9	29.3	-.9	.5
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary	26.0	26.1	26.0	-.1	0
MANUFACTURING	2.1	2.1	2.9	0	-.8
NONMANUFACTURING	23.9	24.0	23.1	-.9	.8
Contract Construction	1.4	1.8	1.4	-.4	0
Transportation and Public Utilities	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	7.7	7.4	7.5	.3	.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	.1
Services and Mining	5.1	5.1	4.9	0	.2
Government	5.8	5.8	5.5	0	.3
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[1/]	2.3	2.2	2.3	-.1	0
(c) Agriculture	1.5	1.6	1.0	-.1	.5
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes	*	*	0	-	-

1/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

* *Under 50.*

Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks. *Series began January 1950.*

Table VI

MONTANA STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Employment by Industry

DECEMBER 1972

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Net Changes to Current Month from: Nov. 1972	Net Changes to Current Month from: Dec. 1971
BILLINGS (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)					
1. Civilian Work Force	41.9	42.0	39.0	-.1	2.9
2. Unemployment	2.6	2.4	2.4	.2	.2
Percent of Work Force	*6.2*	*5.7*	*6.2*	*.5*	*0*
3. Employment, Total	39.3	39.6	36.6	-.3	2.7
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary	33.8	33.9	31.7	-.1	2.1
MANUFACTURING	3.8	4.0	3.6	-.2	.2
NONMANUFACTURING	30.0	29.9	28.1	.1	1.9
Contract Construction	1.9	2.3	1.8	-.4	.1
Transportation and Public Utilities	3.2	3.2	2.9	0	.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	10.5	10.2	10.0	.3	.5
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	.1
Services and Mining	6.5	6.4	6.0	.1	.5
Government	6.1	6.0	5.7	.1	.4
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[1/]	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	.2
(c) Agriculture	1.4	1.6	1.0	-.2	.4
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes	*	*	0	-	-

1/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

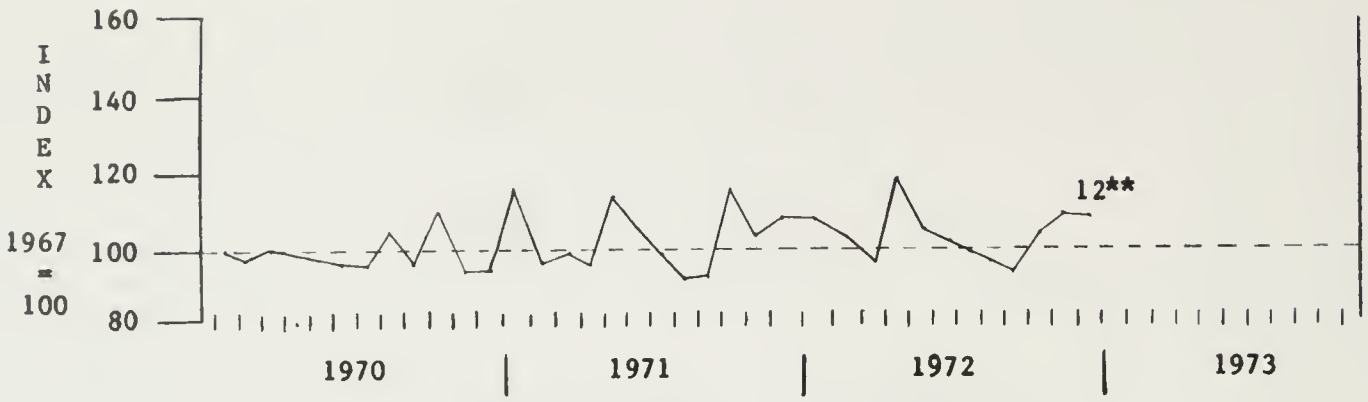
* *Under 50.*

Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks. *Series began January 1958.*

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX LEADING INDICATORS*



Composite Index of
SIX LEADING INDICATORS
1967 = 100

1972	
January	107.8
February	102.0
March	97.4
April	117.1
May	104.7
June	101.7
July	99.3
August	96.2
September	93.8
October	103.5
November	108.1
December	105.0
1973	
January	
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

MONTANA'S ECONOMY

Montana's six leading economic indicators for 1972 showed marked improvement over the recessionary year 1970 and post-recession 1971. In 1970 eight of the twelve months showed economic activity below 1967 levels. During 1971 six of the twelve months fell below 1967 levels. During 1972 only four out of the twelve months of the year fell short of 1967 levels.

Three of the four below average months were those months immediately following the concurrent shutdown of the A.B.M. program in Montana, the phase-out of several zinc smelting operations and the shut-down of a large wood products manufacturer. In spite of these set-backs, the composite index showed quick recovery and in retrospect, 1972 appeared economically sounder than was previously believed. Preliminary indications are that this trend will continue into, and possibly through, the year 1973.

* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*

Table VII

MONTANA CIVILIAN WORK FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* Montana	U. S.	
1971								
January	287.4	267.3	233.4	33.9	19.7	*6.9*	*6.0*	.4
February	291.0	270.8	235.6	35.2	19.8	*6.8*	*5.8*	.4
March	290.4	271.5	237.5	34.0	18.9	*6.5*	*6.0*	*
April	292.7	273.6	236.4	37.2	19.1	*6.5*	*6.1*	*
May	293.2	274.7	237.5	37.2	18.5	*6.3*	*6.2*	*
June	292.4	273.2	237.6	35.6	19.1	*6.5*	*5.6*	.1
July	295.2	268.9	233.2	35.7	20.5	*6.9*	*5.8*	5.8
August	298.3	269.9	233.6	36.3	22.6	*7.6*	*6.1*	5.8
September	298.1	269.8	235.0	34.8	22.5	*7.5*	*6.0*	5.8
October	293.2	271.7	240.7	31.0	21.4	*7.3*	*5.8*	.1
November	297.8	278.7	243.6	35.1	19.0	*6.4*	*6.0*	.1
December	300.5	279.1	243.3	35.8	21.3	*7.1*	*6.0*	.1
1971 Avg.	294.2	272.5	237.3	35.2	20.2	*6.9*	*5.9*	1.5
1972								
January	297.3	275.5	240.9	34.6	21.7	*7.3*	*5.9*	.1
February	298.4	277.0	242.1	34.9	21.3	*7.1*	*5.7*	.1
March	301.5	280.5	245.7	34.8	20.9	*6.9*	*5.9*	.1
April	301.9	280.7	241.9	38.8	21.1	*7.0*	*5.9*	.1
May	300.5	278.1	240.6	37.5	22.2	*7.4*	*5.9*	.2
June	294.8	273.5	236.4	37.1	21.2	*7.2*	*5.5*	.1
July	289.4	267.8	234.6	33.2	21.2	*7.3*	*5.5*	.4
August	296.5	271.2	232.6	38.6	24.7	*8.3*	*5.6*	.6
September	297.3	273.4	233.9	39.5	23.6	*7.9*	*5.5*	.3
October	293.8	269.9	238.1	31.8	23.8	*8.1*	*5.5*	.1
November	297.0	274.9	240.8	34.1	22.0	*7.4*	*5.2*	.1
December	305.5	276.1	241.9	34.2	29.3	*9.6*	*5.2*	.1
1972 Avg.	297.6	274.8	239.0	35.8	22.7	*7.6*		.1
1973								
January	302.7	272.8	239.5	33.3	29.9	*9.9*		
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*
Revised to 1972 Benchmarks *Series began January 1957*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table VIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Work Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* County	State	
1971								
January	30.8	29.1	28.0	1.1	1.7	*5.5*	*6.9*	0
February	30.9	29.1	28.0	1.1	1.8	*5.8*	*6.8*	0
March	31.2	29.4	28.0	1.4	1.8	*5.8*	*6.5*	0
April	31.6	29.8	28.2	1.6	1.8	*5.7*	*6.5*	0
May	31.6	29.9	28.3	1.6	1.7	*5.4*	*6.3*	0
June	31.6	29.6	27.6	2.0	1.9	*6.0*	*6.5*	.1
July	30.7	27.2	25.9	1.3	2.1	*6.8*	*6.9*	1.4
August	31.2	27.5	26.1	1.4	2.3	*7.4*	*7.6*	1.4
September	31.4	27.7	26.5	1.2	2.3	*7.3*	*7.5*	1.4
October	31.1	29.2	28.4	.8	1.9	*6.1*	*7.3*	0
November	31.1	29.3	28.4	.9	1.8	*5.8*	*6.4*	0
December	31.8	29.7	28.6	1.1	2.1	*6.6*	*7.1*	0
1971 Avg.	31.1	28.9	27.6	1.3	1.9	*6.1*	*6.9*	.3
1972								
January	31.8	29.8	28.7	1.1	2.0	*6.3*	*7.3*	0
February	31.8	29.8	28.7	1.1	2.0	*6.3*	*7.1*	0
March	32.1	30.3	28.9	1.4	1.8	*5.6*	*6.9*	0
April	32.6	30.8	29.2	1.6	1.8	*5.5*	*7.0*	0
May	32.3	30.6	29.0	1.6	1.7	*5.3*	*7.4*	0
June	32.6	30.3	28.4	1.9	2.3	*7.1*	*7.2*	0
July	31.9	29.6	28.1	1.5	2.3	*7.2*	*7.3*	*
August	31.9	29.3	27.6	1.7	2.6	*8.2*	*8.3*	*
September	32.1	29.4	27.7	1.7	2.7	*8.4*	*7.9*	*
October	32.5	29.8	28.3	1.5	2.7	*8.3*	*8.1*	0
November	32.3	29.8	28.2	1.6	2.5	*7.7*	*7.4*	*
December	32.7	30.2	28.6	1.6	2.5	*7.6*	*9.6*	*
1972 Avg.	32.2	30.0	28.5	1.5	2.2	*6.8*	*7.6*	*
1973								
January	32.7	30.3	28.7	1.6	2.4	*7.3*	*9.9*	
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks *Series began January 1969*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table IX

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Work Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

In Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* County	State	
1971								
January	37.1	35.0	33.3	1.7	2.1	*5.7*	*6.9*	*
February	37.7	35.5	33.4	2.1	2.2	*5.8*	*6.8*	*
March	37.6	35.3	33.8	1.5	2.3	*6.1*	*6.5*	*
April	37.8	35.6	33.8	1.8	2.2	*5.8*	*6.5*	*
May	38.2	36.1	34.2	1.9	2.1	*5.5*	*6.3*	0
June	37.2	35.2	34.2	1.0	2.0	*5.4*	*6.5*	0
July	38.6	36.3	34.6	1.7	2.3	*6.0*	*6.9*	0
August	38.4	36.0	34.2	1.8	2.4	*6.3*	*7.6*	0
September	39.0	36.5	34.9	1.6	2.5	*6.4*	*7.5*	0
October	38.5	36.2	35.3	.9	2.3	*6.0*	*7.3*	0
November	39.2	36.7	35.5	1.2	2.5	*6.4*	*6.4*	0
December	39.1	36.6	35.3	1.3	2.5	*6.4*	*7.1*	0
1971 Avg.	38.2	35.9	34.4	1.5	2.3	*6.0*	*6.9*	0
1972								
January	39.4	37.0	35.1	1.9	2.4	*6.1*	*7.3*	0
February	39.3	37.0	35.5	1.5	2.3	*5.9*	*7.1*	0
March	40.3	37.9	36.1	1.8	2.4	*6.0*	*6.9*	0
April	40.1	37.8	36.2	1.6	2.3	*5.7*	*7.0*	*
May	39.9	37.4	36.1	1.3	2.5	*6.3*	*7.4*	*
June	40.3	38.0	36.5	1.5	2.3	*5.7*	*7.2*	*
July	41.6	39.0	36.7	2.3	2.6	*6.3*	*7.3*	*
August	41.9	39.1	36.4	2.7	2.8	*6.7*	*8.3*	*
September	42.1	39.5	37.0	2.5	2.6	*6.2*	*7.9*	*
October	41.6	38.9	37.4	1.5	2.7	*6.5*	*8.1*	*
November	41.7	39.1	37.5	1.6	2.6	*6.2*	*7.4*	*
December	41.7	39.0	37.6	1.4	2.7	*6.5*	*9.6*	*
1972 Avg.	40.9	38.4	36.6	1.8	2.5	*6.1*	*7.6*	*
1973								
January	42.6	40.0	37.4	2.6	2.6	*6.1*	*9.9*	
February								
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks *Series began January 1969*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table X

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

DECEMBER 1972

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971
TOTAL PRIVATE	$130.88	$132.00	$122.51	37.5	37.5	36.9	$3.49	$3.52	$3.32
MANUFACTURING	175.39	176.64	158.00	43.2	43.4	39.9	4.06	4.07	3.96
Durable Goods	180.59	182.16	156.41	44.7	45.2	39.8	4.04	4.03	3.93
Primary Metal Industries	168.02	168.02	138.74	40.1	40.1	36.9	4.19	4.19	3.76
Nondurable Goods	163.98	163.46	162.01	39.8	39.2	40.2	4.12	4.17	4.03
Food and Kindred Products	153.92	154.71	158.42	41.6	41.7	42.7	3.70	3.71	3.71
MINING	180.14	182.34	194.81	40.3	40.7	45.2	4.47	4.48	4.31
Metal Mining	185.66	189.14	205.17	40.1	40.5	45.9	4.63	4.67	4.47
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	242.79	243.61	192.10	40.6	40.4	34.8	5.98	6.03	5.52
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	186.13	183.31	168.04	40.2	40.2	40.2	4.63	4.56	4.18
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	163.05	163.07	158.01	39.1	39.2	39.7	4.17	4.16	3.98
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	105.85	105.25	102.43	35.4	35.2	35.2	2.99	2.99	2.91
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	100.19	100.44	98.30	39.6	39.7	38.4	2.53	2.53	2.56
SERVICES	87.64	87.89	83.63	34.1	34.2	34.7	2.57	2.57	2.41

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table XI

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

NOVEMBER 1972

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Nov. 1971	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Nov. 1971	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Nov. 1971	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Nov. 1971	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Nov. 1971
MANUFACTURING	2.2	4.6	2.1	1.7	4.2	1.8	3.6	5.4	3.6	1.7	3.1	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.2
Durable Goods	2.5	4.5	2.3	1.8	3.9	1.9	4.3	6.0	3.6	2.2	3.7	2.3	1.3	1.1	.5
Primary Metal Industries	1.1	1.7	1.2	.4	.8	.5	2.6	2.7	2.5	.8	.5	1.5	1.0	1.7	.2
Nondurable Goods	1.6	4.6	1.8	1.5	4.6	1.7	2.3	4.3	3.6	.9	1.9	.9	.7	1.9	2.4
MINING	6.7	4.2	5.4	4.1	4.0	2.4	5.6	4.2	4.6	2.2	3.1	2.8	.2	.2	.4
Metal Mining	7.6	5.2	5.6	3.4	5.0	1.1	7.8	4.4	3.6	3.0	3.1	1.8	.2	*	.3

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

Table XII

MONTANA JOB VACANCY RATES

In Selected Industries

(Percent)

NOVEMBER 1972

	Nov. 1972	Oct. 1972	Nov. 1971
MANUFACTURING	.1	.2	.3
Durable Goods	.1	.1	.4
Primary Metal Industries	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	*	.3	*
MINING	*	.4	.1

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1970.

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

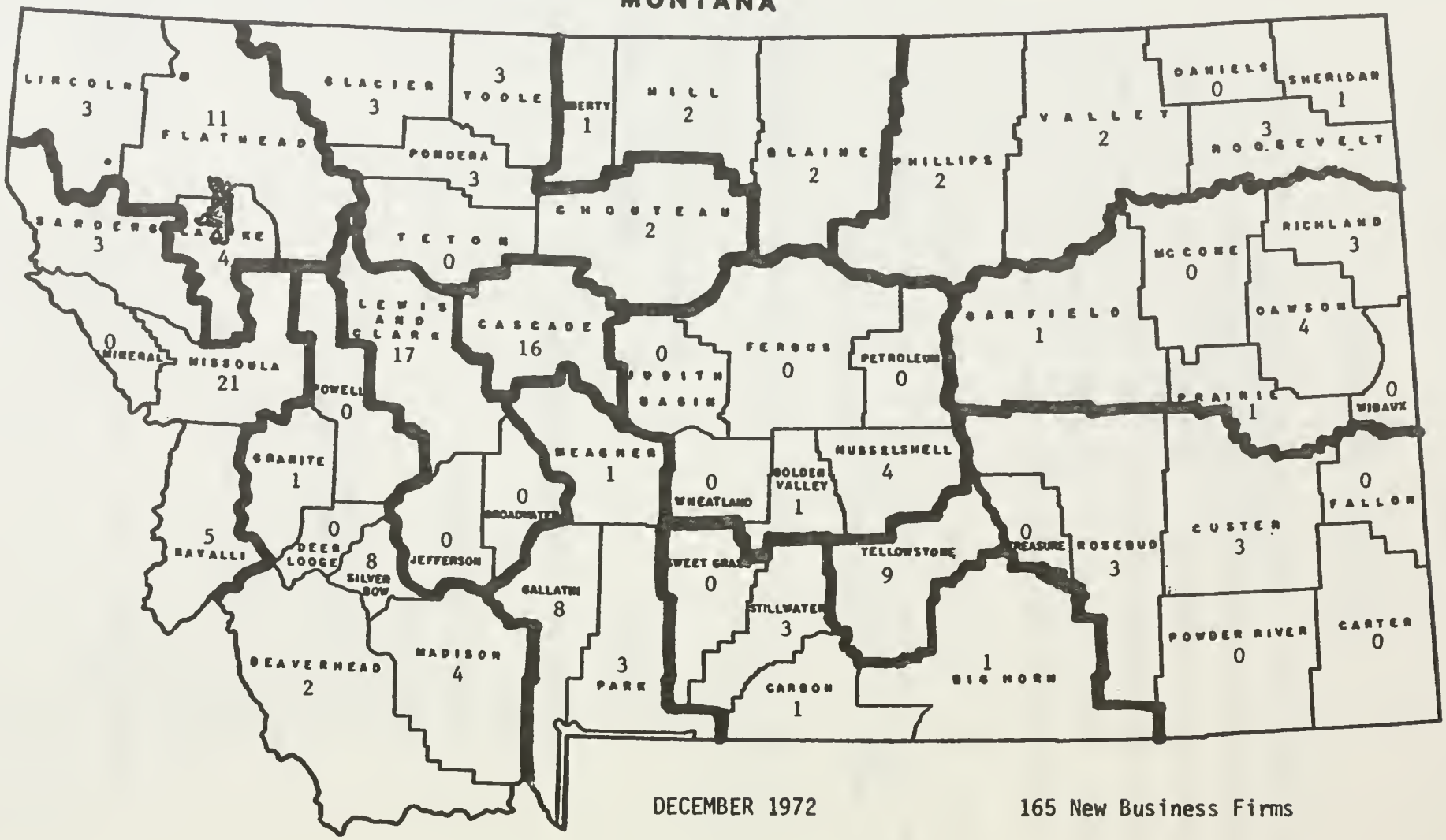
New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following map are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. It is presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The map on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts during the month of December, 1972. Labor market areas are designated by the dark outline.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses in Montana in December by industry:

Industry	Number
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	30
MINING	2
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	22
MANUFACTURING	8
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	32
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	13
SERVICES	53
TOTAL	165

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS
IN
MONTANA



DECEMBER 1972

165 New Business Firms

Source of Data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS

WITH COUNTIES INCLUDED IN EACH AREA

ANACONDA-BUTTE AREA

Beaverhead
Deer Lodge
Granite
Madison
Powell
Silver Bow

BOZEMAN AREA

Gallatin
Meagher
Park

GLASGOW AREA

Daniels
Phillips
Roosevelt
Sheridan
Valley

GLENDIVE AREA

Dawson
Garfield
McCone
Prairie
Richland
Wibaux

HARDIN-RED LODGE AREA

Big Horn
Carbon
Stillwater
Sweet Grass

HAVRE AREA

Blaine
Hill
Liberty

HELENA AREA

Broadwater
Jefferson
Lewis and Clark

KALISPELL AREA

Flathead
Lake
Lincoln

LEWISTOWN AREA

Fergus
Golden Valley
Judith Basin
Musselshell
Petroleum
Wheatland

MILES CITY AREA

Carter
Custer
Fallon
Powder River
Rosebud
Treasure

MISSOULA AREA

Mineral
Missoula
Ravalli
Sanders

SHELBY AREA

Chouteau
Glacier
Pondera
Teton
Toole

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Mr. Joe Kasperick
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The Montana State Employment Service maintains 23 local employment offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.